

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7010

UNCLAS DUBLIN 1313

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, EI

SUBJ: PROTOCOL FOR NEW AMBASSADOR

FOR AMBASSADOR CURLEY AND EUR/NE FROM RENDAHL

1. OF POSSIBLE USE IN DISCUSSIONS NEXT WEEK BETWEEN FORMER AMBASSADOR MOORE AND AMBASSADOR CURLEY, SUMMARIZED BELOW ARE THE RESULTS OF CONVERSATIONS WITH GOI CHIEF OF PROTOCOL JOHN BURKE. ACTION REQUESTED: WHEN CONVENIENT WE WOULD APPRECIATE AMBASSADOR'S GUIDANCE ON SUBJECTS RAISED IN PARAGRAPHS 5 - 8.

2. ARRIVAL IN DUBLIN: UPON ARRIVAL AT DUBLIN AIRPORT AMBASSADOR AND MRS. CURLEY WILL BE MET BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE OFFICE OF CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, USUALLY DEPUTY CHIEF OF PROTOCOL DAN HANAFIN AND CHARGE. THE PARTY WILL BE ESCORTED TO A VIP ROOM. WE PROPOSE THAT EMBASSY CHIEFS OF SECTION AND SPOUSES BE ASSEMBLED IN THAT ROOM FOR PRESENTATION TO AMBASSADOR CURLEY AND HIS WIFE. FOLLOWING THE PRESENTATION WE SUGGEST THAT THE AMBASSADOR BE ESCORTED TO A NEARBY ROOM TO MEET THE PRESS FOR A SHORT STATEMENT AND PRESS CONFERENCE. COMMENT: WE RECOGNIZE THAT MEETING THE PRESS IMMEDIATELY UPON ARRIVAL IS NOT THE BEST POSSIBLE INTRODUCTION TO THE MEDIA BUT SEE NO WAY OF AVOIDING IT SINCE PRESS REPS WILL BE PRESENT IN ANY CASE.

3. FIRST OFFICIAL CONTACTS WITH GOI: WITHIN 24 HOURS OF ARRIVAL PROTOCOL REQUIRES THAT A CALL BE MADE AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. THE AMBASSADOR CALLS FIRST ON CHIEF OF PROTOCOL

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JOHN BURKE FOR THREE OR FOUR MINUTES AND LEAVES COPIES OF

LETTER OF RECALL AND LETTER OF CREDENCE. THE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL THEN ESCORTS THE AMBASSADOR FOR A SHORT CALL ON THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT, PAUL KEATING, WHO IN TURN ESCORTS THE AMBASSADOR FOR A CALL ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER. AFTER THESE CALLS ARE ACCOMPLISHED, THE AMBASSADOR IS FREE TO MAKE OTHER CALLS WITHIN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY BUT NO OTHER "OUTSIDE" CALLS ARE MADE UNTIL AFTER THE PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS TO THE PRESIDENT.

4. PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS: ON THE DATE SET FOR PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS (AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER ARRIVAL) THE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL AND DEPUTY CHIEF ARRIVE AT THE CHANCERY ONE-HALF HOUR BEFORE THE APPOINTMENT, WHICH IS ALMOST ALWAYS SCHEDULED FOR 1100 HOURS. PROTOCOL HAS A STRONG PREFERENCE FOR DEPARTURE FROM THE CHANCERY RATHER THAN THE EMBASSY RESIDENCE. THE PARTY PROCEEDS TO ARAS AN UACHTARAIN (PRESIDENT'S RESIDENCE) EXCORTEED BY BOTH MILITARY AND POLICE ESCORTS. THE ACTUAL PRESENTATION CEREMONY HAS CHANGED LITTLE IN THE LAST SIX YEARS. COPIES OF THE FORMAT FOR THE MOST RECENT PRESENTATION CEREMONY ARE BEING MAILED TO AMBASSADOR CURLEY'S NEW YORK ADDRESS AND TO EUR/NE. AT THE CEREMONY ITSELF THE AMBASSADOR MAKES A VERY SHORT STATEMENT, USUALLY ABOUT THREE SENTENCES. HE STATES THAT HE WISHES TO PRESENT HIS CREDENTIALS TO THE PRESIDENT, EXPRESSES HIS DESIRE TO CARRY ON CLOSE CONTACTS BETWEEN U.S. AND IRELAND, AND, IF APPROPRIATE, CONVEYS PERSONAL GOOD WISHES FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE PRESIDENT OF IRELAND. THE PRESIDENT OF IRELAND RESPONDS IN IRISH LANGUAGE WITH SIMILAR BREVITY EXPRESSING THANKS, SUPPORT FOR THE AMBASSADOR'S MISSION, AND ASKS THE AMBASSADOR TO CONVEY PERSONAL GOOD WISHES TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. AFTER A SUITABLE PHOTO OPPORTUNITY THE PRESIDENT, FOREIGN MINISTER AND THE AMBASSADOR RETIRE TO ANOTHER ROOM FOR 10 - 15 MINUTES OF PRIVATE DISCUSSION. UPON DEPARTURE THE AMBASSADOR SIGNS THE GUEST BOOK, REVIEWS AN HONOR GUARD AND IS ESCORTED BACK TO THE EMBASSY BY THE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL.

5. COMMENT: AS NOTED ABOVE PROTOCOL HAS A PREFERENCE FOR DEPARTURE FROM THE EMBASSY CHANCERY FOR THE PRESENTATION
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OF CREDENTIALS RATHER THAN THE EMBASSY RESIDENCE. IN ADDITION, PROTOCOL SUGGESTS THAT THE AMBASSADOR BE ACCOMPANIED ONLY BY THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF MISSION AND ONE OTHER, USUALLY THE DEFENSE ATTACHE IN UNIFORM. ADDITIONALLY, WE SUGGEST THAT AMBASSADOR DURLEY INVITE THE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL AND THE PARTY TO HIS OFFICE FOR REFRESHMENTS AT THE COMPLETION OF THE CEREMONY.

6. WITH REGARD TO THE TIMING OF AMBASSADOR CURLEY'S ARRIVAL, CHIEF OF PROTOCOL BURKE SAID THAT HE WANTED THE EMBASSY AND AMBASSADOR CURLEY TO BE AWARE OF SEVERAL CONSIDERATIONS. HE SAID THAT IN THE ABSENCE OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER ANOTHER CABINET MEMBER WOULD NORMALLY STAND IN FOR HIM AT THE CREDENTIALS CEREMONY. HOWEVER, BURKE SAID HE KNEW THAT IN THE CASE OF A NEWLY ARRIVING AMERICAN AMBASSADOR, FOREIGN MINISTER FITZGERALD WOULD WANT TO BE PRESENT PERSONALLY. BURKE ADDED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER FITZGERALD, SECRETARY KEATING AND HE HIMSELF WOULD BE AWAY ON VACATION THE ENTIRE MONTH OF AUGUST. HE UNDERTOOK TO CHECK THE AVAILABILITY OF PRESIDENT O'DALAIGH AND REPORTED LATER THAT THE PRESIDENT PRESENTLY PLANS TO TAKE AN "OPEN-ENDED" VACATION COMMENCING THE SECOND FULL WEEK IN AUGUST. HE ANTICIPATES BEING AWAY FOR TWO FULL WEEKS AND QUITE POSSIBLY A THIRD WEEK.

7. CONCERNING THE ACTUAL ARRIVAL DATE BURKE SAID THAT HE WANTED US TO KNOW THAT THE CHIEFS OF PROTOCOL OF COMMON MARKET COUNTRIES HAD AGREED RECENTLY NOT TO MEET ARRIVING AMBASSADORS ON SATURDAYS OR SUNDAYS.

8. CHARGE HAS DISCUSSED ALL THE FOREGOING WITH FORMER AMBASSADOR MOORE. WITH RESPECT TO THE TIMING OF AMBASSADOR CURLEY'S ARRIVAL IN DUBLIN EMBASSY FEELS THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IS DEFINITELY SUGGESTING THAT THEY WOULD PREFER AN ARRIVAL IN THE EARLIEST DAYS OF SEPTEMBER IN ORDER TO PERMIT FULL HONORS. UNLESS THERE ARE SPECIAL REASONS FOR AUGUST ARRIVAL WE WOULD RECOMMEND AN EARLY SEPTEMBER ARRIVAL. RENDAHL

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